

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
3rd Sector Investment Fund

**Service Specification:
Arts, Culture & Sport**

1. Introduction

LBHF services that encompass libraries, parks and open spaces, sport and leisure activities are managed by the Council's Resident Services Department. This specification is intended to set out the nature, scope and coverage of services for the provision of arts, culture and sports services that the council intends to commission, that will complement and add value to the existing range of local provision.

The key driver is delivery on the Community Culture & Leisure agenda of the Council's Corporate Plan 2006-2010 available on the internet at www.lbhf.gov.uk

The Council intends to fund services under the Arts, Culture & Sport service area that address the following core objectives:

- To increase access to and participation in arts and culture for residents of H&F and address the barriers to participation in the arts.
- Help residents to improve their physical and emotional health & wellbeing and adopt health lifestyles through increased participation in sports and physical activity
- To encourage excellence and innovation in artistic quality and to promote and foster good practice
- Contribute to improving the vitality of the borough and community cohesion through sport, leisure and culture activities.

2. 3SIF: Arts, Culture & Sport - Funding Objectives

It is our aim to build upon the already strong tradition of partnership working firmly established within the borough, furthering our relationships with the voluntary and community sector by encouraging the development of exciting and innovative provisions that will help to increase the take-up of sport, arts and leisure activities in the borough, thereby impacting on crime and anti-social behaviour, health and residents' satisfaction with regard to living in the borough.

Research has shown that participation in cultural, sports and leisure activities can lead to improved physical and mental health, and also lead to improvements in the healthcare system. For example a lack of physical activity is one of the leading causes of preventable health conditions, and a sedentary lifestyle and lack of physical activity can contribute to or be a risk factor for:

- Anxiety
- Cardiovascular disease
- Depression
- Diabetes
- Colon cancer
- Mortality (in elderly men by 30% and double the risk in elderly women)
- High blood pressure
- Obesity
- Osteoporosis
- Lipid disorders
- Kidney stones

Although the borough compares well across London in terms of the proportion of residents who report that they participate in sports/leisure activities, the prevalence of a number of health conditions for particular communities and areas would suggest that take-up is not consistent across different demographics.

3. What we wish to fund

Services funded under the 3rd Sector Investment Fund: Arts, Culture & Sports must deliver outcomes for the most vulnerable in our community and aim to improve the overall quality of life for our residents by increasing participation in sports, arts and cultural activities, particularly by those people previously unengaged or with limited opportunities to participate in mainstream sports, culture or arts activities. Funding will be available for the following types of services:

- Cultural and arts based activities
- Sports and leisure based activities

We expect organisations to target services to particular communities and priority groups for example:

- Areas of the borough where the opportunity to participate in sports, leisure or arts is lower than elsewhere in the borough
- Communities which have a disproportionately low take up of sports, leisure or arts activities (disabled people, single parent families, people from low income households, etc.)
- Health inequalities groups that would particularly benefit from taking up sports, leisure or cultural activities:
 - People with long term health conditions, who do not participate in sports/health activities
 - Children from deprived households
 - Residents at risk of developing health conditions (e.g. low level mental health needs, sedentary lifestyles, specific communities at risk of particular health conditions etc.) which could be averted through the take up of sports, leisure or cultural activities, and who are also unable to access (or are not motivated to access) mainstream provision

4. What we do not wish to fund

- Services that duplicate existing provision (whether private, statutory, commissioned, ongoing/existing 3rd sector provision, or funded under other service areas of the 3rd Sector Investment Fund)
- Services that do not specifically deliver the outcomes as set out in this service specification
- Multiple niche organisations delivering services to single communities
- Services which are considered should/could be self funding through service charges

5. Outcomes Sought

Funding will be available where organisations can demonstrate that they address the following outcomes. However, we recognise that not all outcomes can be easily captured and evidenced, and for contract monitoring purposes, a combination of outcomes for

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residents (qualitative information) and service outputs (quantitative information) can be negotiated. The main outcomes that the Council is seeking the 3rd Sector to deliver under this specification include:

Arts, Culture & Sports Service Outcomes:

A: Participation in arts and cultural activities

Outcomes

- acs1. The barriers to residents access to existing/mainstream arts/culture activities are identified and reduced and a subsequent increase in participation is evidenced
 - acs2. Residents develop skills, interests and aspirations for their future through arts and cultural activities that are creative, challenging and supportive.
 - acs3. Residents have increased opportunities to participate in arts/cultural activities – particularly in areas, or for communities, where there was previously limited provision
 - acs4. Residents enjoy demonstrable improved lifestyles through an enhanced cultural experience – particularly those who have not previously participated in similar activities
 - acs5. Residents and communities have improved opportunities to celebrate the cultural diversity of the borough – resulting in improved community cohesion and increased participation in community events.
- Services must evidence how they will contribute to a legacy of arts and culture in the borough.
 - In addition service providers will need to evidence partnership working including the number of users referred to other agencies.
 - All outcomes will need to be evidenced and quantified.

B: Increased take up of leisure and sports activities

Outcomes

- acs6. The barriers to residents accessing existing/mainstream sports and leisure activities are identified and reduced, and a subsequent increase in participation is evidenced
 - acs7. Residents develop skills, interests and aspirations for their future through sports and leisure activities that are creative, challenging and supportive
 - acs8. Residents are motivated, encouraged and supported to take up sports and leisure activities (particularly those who had not participated previously)
 - acs9. Residents have increased opportunities to participate in sports/leisure activities – particularly in areas, or for communities, where there was previously limited provision.
 - Acs10. Residents enjoy demonstrable improved lifestyles through active sport and leisure activities and reduced exposure to unhealthy activities
- Services must evidence how they will contribute to the legacy of sports in the borough.
 - In addition service providers will need to evidence partnership working including the number of users referred to other agencies.
 - All outcomes will need to be evidenced and quantified

6. Charges to users

- The council is keen for organisations to consider how their services can be self sustaining, and actively encourages organisations to consider a service model that can evolve as a social enterprise through levying a charge to service users.
- For services that propose to include refreshments and transport, the full costs of these may be expected to be charged to service users.

7. Organisational outcomes

The council expects all funded groups to ensure that broader organisational outcomes are also achieved in order for the sector to increase its sustainability, independence and contribute to a flourishing 3rd sector community. The outcomes we expect organisations to deliver are:

Sustainability	Organisations will have demonstrably improved long-term sustainability having adopted realistic and comprehensive business plans and fundraising strategies and maximised income from existing resources.
Leverage	Demonstrated increased ability to use 3 rd Sector Investment Fund investment to lever in further funding to the borough to further support local residents.
Strategic working	Evidenced ability to influence, engage and work in partnership with other 3 rd Sector organisations, the council and its partners, on a wide range of activities which support the delivery of H&F priorities
Good practice models	Organisations will implement, highlight and evidence good practice models on a range of issues including quality assurance and service models which could be promoted and shared across the sector.
Good environmental practice	Organisations will evidence adoption of environmental policies which ensure that their organisations and the community facilities/premises they use have improved financial viability, use less energy, pollute less, create less waste and have a reduced impact on climate change.

8. Service model and principles

The following guiding principles must be followed by all providers:

Principle	Meaning
Individuality, choice and control	Service users will be treated as unique individuals and have access to flexible services which offer choice and support independence and autonomy.
Increased motivation and confidence	Service users will be empowered to increase their independence and increase their take up of opportunities for participating in community life.
Community Cohesion	Bringing neighbourhoods/groups together and enhancing integration, sharing expectations, improving understanding and knowledge.
Equality and Diversity	Organisations will demonstrate a high level of commitment to equalities and diversity in their role as an employer and a service provider.
Empowerment and involvement	Services are informed and shaped by users and residents – beyond representation on the Board or Management Committee.
Benefits to carers	Carers are identified and provided with the support needed to enable them

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	to continue in their caring role.
Whole life approach	Service approaches that support users through different stages of their life, and support them through life events.
Safeguarding	All services will have appropriate safeguarding policies and procedures if working with young or vulnerable residents, including CRB checks, Quality Assurance processes, clear supervision and training of staff and volunteers, accreditation, qualifications, monitoring etc.
Maximised service capacity	Maximised capacity of the service through delivering a throughput of users, and a range of interventions that support self-help, improved individual responsibility and targeted support to the more vulnerable.
Partnership and collaboration	Service users will benefit from referrals to other services and organisations that could offer support and advice.
Value for Money	Organisations will demonstrate that value for money considerations have been considered in the design and delivery of services, and demonstrate a commitment to working alongside the council to deliver efficiencies in the future.